

2014

Ohio Incident
Broadcast Coverage Report
July 7 (5:00AMCT)

Broadcast Coverage Report

COVERAGE



WHIZ (NBC) - Zanesville, OH

Live at Noon

July 3, 2014

Aired: [6:45AM](#), [6:31AM](#), [6:01AM](#)

July 2, 2014

Aired: [12:02PM](#)

Incident mention from transcript: an environmental grp is looking into a fish kill in an eastern ohio creek that is also under investigation the ste. thousands of fish turned up dead across several miles of opossum creek in monroe county after a weekend fire at a gas well site. state authorities haven't said whether those situations are connected. an attorney with the ohio environmental council visid the area tuesday. he characterized the fish kill as one of the state's largest and said it may have been caused by the fire

or efforts to extinguish it. authorities say a tubing malfunction led to a well pad fire that spread to about 20 trucks and set off explosions saturday. some families living nearby were evacuated temporarily.



WTOV (NBC) - Wheeling, WV

News 9 Sunrise

July 2, 2014

Aired: [6:31AM](#), [5:30AM](#)

WTOV (NBC) - Wheeling, WV

News 9 Tonight

July 1, 2014

Aired: [11:05PM](#)

Incident mention from transcript: we're back in monroe county as investigators returned to the scene of a weekend gas well fire

that foed a community to evacuate. now thousands of dead fish are washing up along a local creek---and environmental officials say its all due to the fire. the evidence is clear along possum creek. and we were there as nathan johnson, an attorney with the ohio environmental council, was in town investigating what he calls one of the largest fish kills reported in the state. "opossum creek is considered superior high quality by the states e-p-a so really one of the better cleaner healthier creeks in the states and unfortunately it's been subject to this massive fish kill.... "current law mandates that these well pads be 50 feet from streams, lakes or other running waters...johnson says if nothing else, legislators should work to push that limit back several hundred feet. but what are legislators - especially those from our area - doing to make sure that the industry is properly regulated and that those requirements and standards are being upheld? well we spoke briefly with state senator lou gentile who told us he has already reached out to state regulating agencies, local officials, and other responsible parties to find better solutions. "it's my understanding that we have permitted nearly 1000 wells - so there is going to be a lot of activity.... what they need to properly and adequately regulate the industry. "gentile is also asking the appropriate agencies to work with community's first responders to assist with cost recovery for any expenses they incurred while responding.



WCMH-CBO (NBC) - Columbus, OH

NBC 4 Today at 5am

July 2, 2014

Aired: [5:04AM](#)

WCMH-CBO (NBC) - Columbus, OH

NBC 4 at 11

July 1, 2014

Aired: [11:09PM](#)

Incident mention from transcript: nbc4 a follow up this morning on a fracking well fire this past weekend in eastern ohio. state wildlife investigators now say that fire could be linked to the death of hundreds of local fish. this all happened on saturday in monroe county, and took crews 24 hours to put out the flames - even forced evacuations not far from the ohio river. these pictures are from "ohio environmental"....an

Broadcast Coverage Report

environmental advocacy group... officers believe chemicals from the fracking well leaked into opossum creek, eventually killing the fish. o-d-n-r is still counting the number of dead fish, but are still unsure if any pollutants from the creek could have made it into the ohio river.



WTOV (NBC) - Wheeling, WV

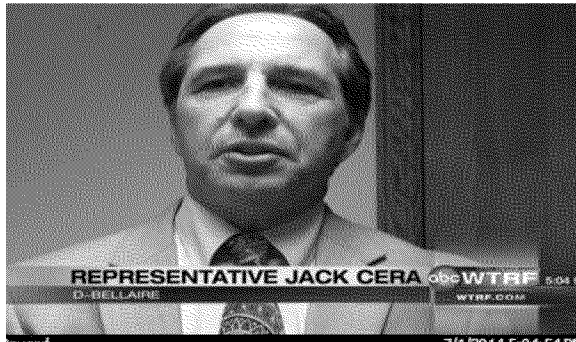
News 9 at 6

July 1, 2014

Aired: 6:03PM

Incident mention from transcript: investigators return to the scene of that gas well fire that evacuated a monroe county community over the weekend. news9's celina pompeani is live now in our belmont county newsroom. celina, you were out there with those crews trying to figure out what happened--- what have they learned? eric well we already know, according to authorities, that a tubing malfunction led to this well pad fire and set off explosions last saturday evacuating several families... today, nathan johnson who is an attorney with ohio environmental council was actually in town investigating one of the largest fish kills reported in the state, due to this well pad fire.

"and it looks as though the fire or operations associated with it created a very large fish kill it's one of the largest in the states history certainly associated with oil and gas operations. "this enormous fish kill spans about five miles long--thousands of dead fish lining possum creek.. "opossum creek is considered superior high quality by the states e-p-a so really one of the better cleaner healthier creeks in the states and unfortunately it's been subject to this massive fish kill.... "johnson says this would be a golden opportunity for the legislature to step in..there is a law in the book now that mandates these well pads be only 50 feet from streams lakes or other running waters...johnson says if nothing else, officials really need to push that limit back several hundred feet."this is just the infant stages of the shale play in ohio and we really need a more mature regulatory approach to what is happening here. " now we first got word of the fish kill yesterday--after several residents voiced their concerns..i also reached out to the ohio department of natural resources...and they are currently investigating and working with the e-p-a on this matter as well.for now reporting live from the belmont county newsroom im celina pompeani for news9. from belmont county



WTRFDT3 (ABC) - Wheeling, WV

7 News @ 5pm

July 1, 2014

Aired: 5:03PM

7 News @ 5pm on WTRFDT3 (ABC) - Wheeling, WV

July 1, 2014

Aired: 5:03PM

WTRF (CBS) - Wheeling, WV

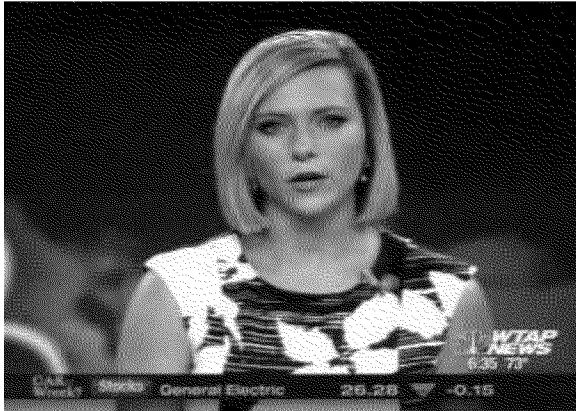
7 News @ 11pm

July 1, 2014

Aired: 11:05PM

Incident mention from transcript: in the wake of a huge gas well fire over the weekend in monroe county.....officials are putting their concerns into writing....and into action. ohio representative jack cera has written a letter to the epa....the odnr....and the department of public safety. and the belmont county commissioners are making a concerted effort to learn more about the well pads in their jurisdiction. let's go straight to dk wright, live in the 7 newsroom, with the latest. dk? black smoke was belching into the sky....outside hannibal....on saturday. ohio representative jack cera wants to know what happened. the epa and the odnr were on the scene....and cera has sent letters to them....and to the department of public safety. he says volunteer fire departments suffered losses that need to be re-couped. county commissioner ginny favede has been concerned about well pad safety for some time. she says even county officials don't know where all the well pads are. so favede says the local emergency planning commission is going to make it a point to communicate regularly with the fracking industry. ohio senator lou gentile also wrote a letter to the odnr director, asking for a briefing on the well fire, and what's being done to prevent another one. he's also asking about the effect on local waterways...and asking for help for first responders....who need to recover their losses from fighting that fire. dk wright, live in the 7 newsroom, working for you.

Broadcast Coverage Report



WTAP (NBC) - Parkersburg, WV
Daybreak

July 1, 2014

Aired: 6:35AM, 5:42AM,

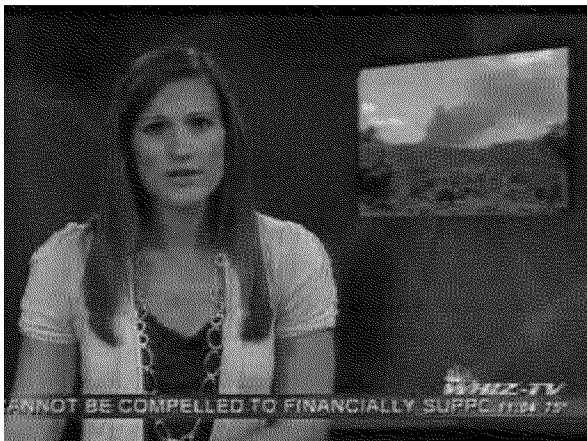
WTAP (NBC) - Parkersburg, WV
WTAP News at Eleven

June 30, 2014

Aired: 11:05PM

Incident mention from transcript: we told you yesterday about an oil well fire in monroe county over the weekend... and now possibly some serious environmental effects.. it all happened back on saturday and burned for hours ... and evacuated several homes ... now a fish kill has now been reported in a creek near the site of the fire. the state is

investigating ohio environmental council deputy director says the kill spanned a few miles. there are no details about the fish kill or whether it was related to the fire. authorities say a tubing malfunction led to a well pad fire that spread to about 20 trucks on the pad and set off the explosions.



WHIZ (NBC) - Zanesville, OH
WHIZ News

June 30, 2014

Aired: 11:04PM

Incident mention from transcript: in news from around the state tonight, officials are still looking into a fire over the weekend at a gas well site.it happened saturday in monroe county. workers and residents were evacuated after the fire broke out. authorities say a tubing malfunction led tohe firson a pad where about 20-trucks were being staged. the fire set off a number of explosions. the smoke could be seen for miles.



WTRFDT2 (FOX) - Wheeling, WV
Fox Ohio Valley News

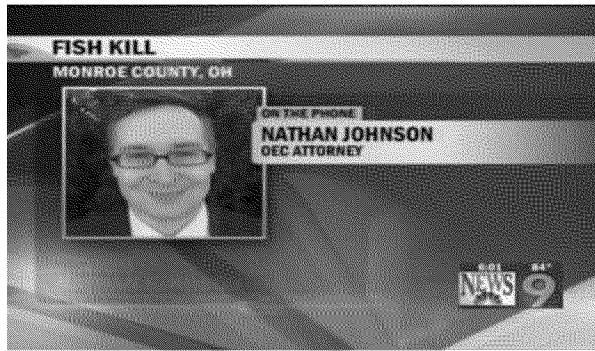
June 30, 2014

Aired:10:34PM

Incident mention from transcript: we have new details right now about a massive natural gas well site fire that happened in monroe county on saturday. officials with statoil say crews were on scene for more than 24 hours trying to extinguish the fire. a fire crew from texas even came in to assist in the efforts. right now they say they don't want to speculate what caused the fire to start, but it did involve surface equipment and none of the wells have been on

fire. statoil is happy no one was injured during the incident and their main focus has been on the well-being of personnel, crews, and responders. the company doesn't know how much damage has been done at this point as they are investigating the damages. just yesterday miles of dead fish appeared in a creek in monroe county not far from the fire and people are curious to know if this unusual occurrence is related to the fire.

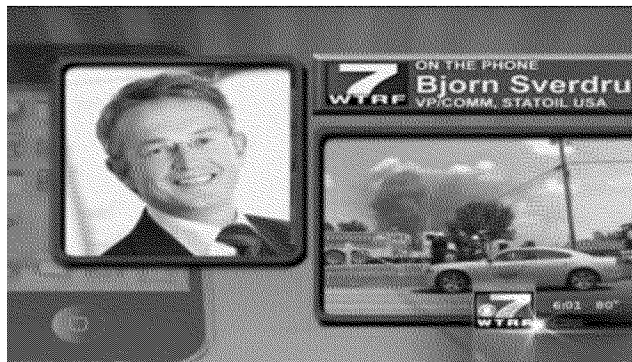
Broadcast Coverage Report



WTOV (NBC) - Wheeling, WV
News 9 at 6
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: 6:01PM

Incident mention from transcript: new at six: we're learning more about a massive fish kill following a gas well fire saturday in monroe county. officials say it could be the largest fishkill in state history.the ohio environmental council tells us this is happening along possum creek. nathan johnson from the o-e-c says hundreds or thousands of dead fish are washing up. "unfortunately who's to say this problem wont happen again we need to make sure that we can make these sorts of things unlikely as possible

through ohio's laws and regulations. " we also reached out to the ohio department of natural resources.it is currently investigating and working with the e-p-a.the findings will be released as soon as they figure out the problem. to marshall county



WTRF (CBS) - Wheeling, WV (Quotes Otto Sverdrup)
7 News @ 6pm
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: 6:00PM

Incident mention from transcript: new tonight at 6, we're learning more details about a mss natural gas well site fire that happened in monroe county on saturday...lets get right to 7 news reporter tate blanchard who joins us live from the 7 studio with more on the fire and its effects... tate? that's right nate. the fire broke out just before 10 o'clock saturday morning at the statoil well pad just outside of hannibal. smoke from the blaze could be seen for miles. this is video from the scene on saturday. officials

with statoil say crews were on scene for more than 24 hours trying to extinguish the fire. a fire crew from texas even came in to assist in the efforts. right now they say they don't want to speculate what caused the fire to start, but it did involve surface equipment and none of the wells have been on fire. statoil is happy no one was injured during the incident and their main focus has been on the well-being of personnel, crews, and responders. the company doesn't know how much damage has been done at this point as they are investigating the damages. just yesterday miles of dead fish appeared in a creek in monroe county not far from the fire and people are curious to know if this unusual occurrence is related to the fire. the ohio department of natural resources is looking into the matter. the natural gas pad has 8 wells, but only one is operational; and according to sverdrup, the well was not in production mode at the time of the fire. at this time the pad is still not back up for production as statoil and authorities continue to investigate how and why the fire started. reporting live in the 7 studio, tate blanchard working for you.



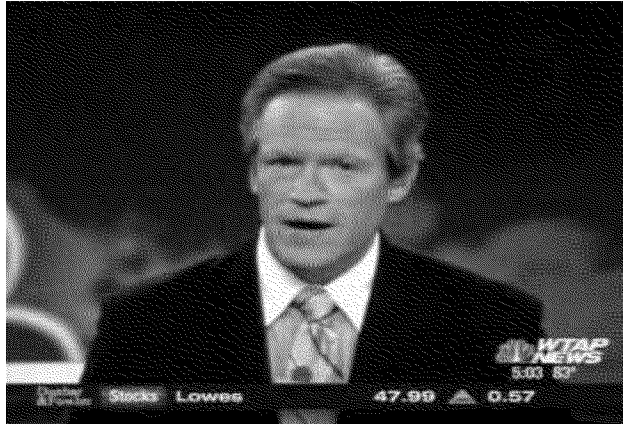
WCMH-CBO (NBC) - Columbus, OH (Quotes Bjorn Otto Sverdrup)
NBC 4 at Five
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: 5:30PM

Incident mention from transcript: a 24-hour fight to put out the flames at a gas and oil well drilling site is over. but tonight... big questions remain about the fire - that forced the evacuation of more than 20 homes. good evening, i'm duane pohlman. and i'm colleen marshall, in for ellie. the well drilling site is in monroe county, not far from the ohio river. officials say the fire started after a part malfunctioned saturday morning. n-b-c four's rick reitzel is getting you

answers about what happened, and how first responders reacted. the eisenbarth well pad about the size of a football field... eight oil and natural gas wells drilled... seven of those were ready to start delivering on their promise of more energy....r of that site tells me while none of those wells caught fire -- all of the equipment around them - trucks -- tanker hoses - and pumps fed the flames. , spokesperson statoil , spokesperson statoil " the fire developed quite quickly. the fire covered the entire well pad and the personnel were evacuated. " dozens of first responders from ohio and west virginia rushed into the area evacuating workers and nearby neighbors from 20 to 25 homes. sverdrup, " now the issue is we are working with local agencies to contain the site and avoid environmental damages. " the fire caused no human injuries -- but state investigators

Broadcast Coverage Report

say dead fish stretched for nearly 5 miles along opossum creek... possibly caused by runoff from the damaged wells. fire fighters again responding to a scene without knowing exactly what they were fighting.. rick reitzel "we reported in the past about issues emergency crews could face while fighting a well fire without knowing the dangers involved because of chemicals used in the fracking of a well." sverdrup "does statoil have a plan in place so first responders know what they are dealing with? "we put great emphasis on transparency and also the safety of first responders that means if they have to have access to chemicals and machinery they are confronted with we would share that concern." the accident investigation and spill into the creek are still under investigation and o-d- n-r says statoil has no other past infraction with oil and gas wells. we will let you know more as details develop.



WTAP (NBC) - Parkersburg, WV
WTAP at Five
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: 5:03PM, 6:11PM

Incident mention from transcript: some serious environmental effects today that could be tied an oil well fire in monroe county saturday. the saturday fire burned for hours ... and evacuated several homes ... now a fish kill reported in a creek near the site of the fire. the state is investigating. the ohio environmental council deputy director says the kill spanned a few miles. there are no details about the fish kill or whether it was related to the fire. authorities say a tubing malfunction led to a well pad fire that spread to about 20 trucks on the pad and set off the explosions.



WTOV (NBC) - Wheeling, WV
News 9 Midday
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: 12:01PM

Incident mention from transcript: now to the latest details on a monroe county gas well that erupted in flames over the weekend..we're learning a fish kill is being reported in a creek near the site of the fire. the state is investigating the fish kill.ohio environmental council deputy director jack y sheriff for more details..stay with news9 and wto9.com as ringng y more information.



WTRF (CBS) - Wheeling, WV
7 News @ 12pm
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: 12:01PM

Incident mention from transcript: an update right now on that major fire at a monroe county well pad this weekend. we're learning a fish kill has been reported near the site. ohio environmental council deputy director jack shaner says the kill spanned a few miles. an o-dnr spokesman cannot confirm whether the fish kill is related to the fire. authorities say a tubing malfunction led to the fire that spread to about 20

trucks on the pad, setting off explosions. some families living nearby had to be evacuated temporarily.

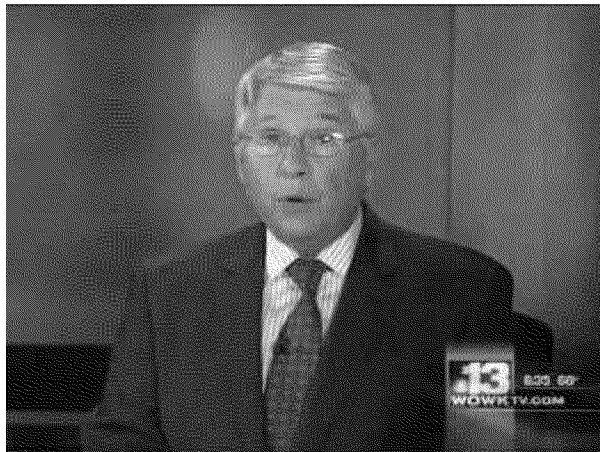
Broadcast Coverage Report



WTRFDT3 (ABC) - Wheeling, WV
7 News @ 12pm
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: [12:01PM](#)

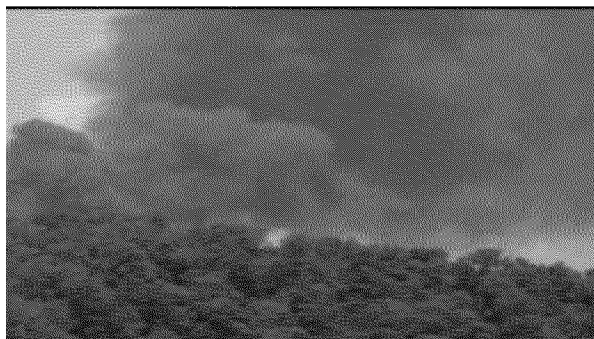
Incident mention from transcript: an update right now on that major fire at a monroe county well pad this weekend. we're learning a fish kill has been reported near the site. ohio environmental council deputy director jack shaner says the kill spanned a few miles. an o-dnr spokesman cannot confirm whether the fish kill is related to the fire. authorities say a tubing malfunction led to the fire that spread to about 20 trucks on the pad, setting off explosions. some families living nearby

had to be evacuated temporarily. smoke could be seen for miles



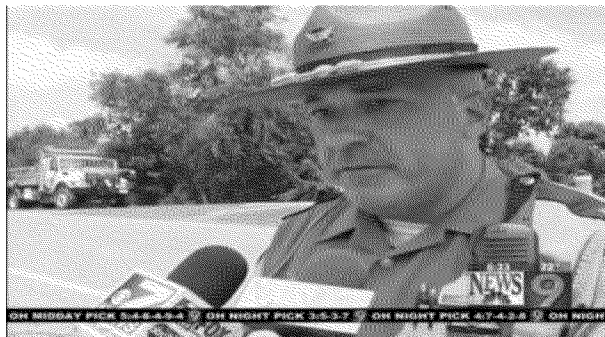
WOWK (CBS) - Charleston, WV
13 News at 6AM
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: [6:35AM](#)

Incident mention from transcript: a fire erupts at a well pad in monroe county ohio. smoke from the fire could be seen for miles across the valley saturday. no one was allowed to get close to the site. sheriff's deputies and members of the ohio 20 to 25 homes in the state highway patrol evacuated area. workers who were on the pad say the fire started when a vehicle went up flames, and spread from there. crews worked to keep the oil well itself from catching fire. workers told us mother nature was helping because the wind was blowing the fire away from the well.



WTAP (NBC) - Parkersburg, WV
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: [5:33AM](#), [7:28AM](#), [12:02PM](#)

Incident mention from transcript: around 10-30 saturday.. the monroe county sheriff's office said that a well pad site was on-fire. more than 20 homes along long ridge road were evacuated. the property, in ohio township, is owned by statoil u-s-a on shore properties. workers say the fire started when a vehicle went up in flames.. it quickly spread from there. crews worked for hours to contain the fire.. the smoke could be seen for miles. starting this week



WTOV (NBC) - Wheeling, WV
News 9 Sunrise
 June 30, 2014
 Aired: [6:33AM](#),

Incident mention from transcript: continuing coverage of a gas well fire in monroe county that forced residents to be evacuated from their homes- saturdaythat well site is located on county road 43 -- long ridge road outside of hannibal. ú that fire started around 10:30 saturday morning --- thats when all workers on the site were evacuated along with residents who live on county road 43.multiple fire departments from west virginia and ohio were on scene ---

along with a gas well fire crew.the ohio state highway patrol was on scene to assist with traffic control and the evacuation. "the main concern is about th efire spreading and also explosions as the gas well heads get hot and they heat up they tend to explode and that could cause debris to fly through the area from up to a mile radius." at this time it is unclear how exactly the fire started.. and it is still under investigation.

Broadcast Coverage Report



WTAP News at 11 on WTAP (NBC)

June 29, 2014

Aired: 11:03PM

Incident mention from transcript: back to monroe county for more on the big story saturday.. crews battled a massive gas well fire for several hours. dozens of people living near hannibal were forced to leave their homes. tonight we're hearing those accounts. the newscenter's hayley skene reports. 3 around 10-30 saturday morning.. the monroe county sheriff's office said that a "well-pad-site" was on-fire."first i thought it was a storm, then i came out and saw the black smoke, and it sounded like a forth of july event a little early."the sheriff's office and state troopers evacuated over 20-

homes on long-ridge- road."they say if there's a fire or something, what would the first thing you'd grab be. of course, it's the kids, husband and the animals. we were in so much of a hurry we left without a change of clothes or anything like that because it was kind of scary."statoil workers also left the site.they say the fire started when a vehicle went up in flames.. it quickly spread from there.but statoil says it was kept above ground.. and was not burning in any of the site's 8- wells.crews worked for hours to contain the fire.. the smoke could be seen for miles.and residents are still recovering from the shock."if i'd have known what i know know, i wish they would've never came around. they more or less seem to think they can run all over anybody and 3 nobody has to say a word, but if that would've ignited those wells on the hill, they say it would've taken out new martinsville."the oil company they were going to take care of hotel rooms for people who didn't have a place to go. but, we were fortunate enough to have family around that took us in for the ly.. mother nature was on their side.the fire in the opposite direction of the oil-well itself."we're just thankful no one was hurt- a house can be rebuilt.. but somebody's life can't."investigators were unavailable for comment sunday.hayley skene, wtap news, monroe county.



WTAP (NBC) - Parkersburg, WV

Today

June 29, 2014

Aired: 8:26AM

Incident mention from transcript: we're learning more about a well-fire saturday in monroe county. around 10-30 in the morning.. the monroe county sheriff's office said that a "well-pad-site" was on-fire. the sheriff's office and state troopers evacuated 20- plus home along long- ridge-road. workers say the fire started when a vehicle went up in flames.. it quickly spread from there. crews worked for hours to contain the fire.. the smoke could be seen for miles. very fortunately.. they say mother nature was on their side. the wind blew the fire in the opposite the oil-

well itself.



WCMH-CBO (NBC) - Columbus, OH

NBC 4 Today

June 29, 2014

Aired: 9:34AM, 7:34AM, 6:35AM

Incident mention from transcript: a fire at a natural gas well site in southeastern ohio triggered a few evacuations in that area...near the border with west virginia. this is in hannibal, ohio in monroe county...and the operator of the site says the fire yesterday was on the surface and not burning inside any of its wells. a small number of people living near the site were evacuated and no one was injured. this morning...it is not clear what sparked the flames.

Broadcast Coverage Report



WTOV (NBC) – Wheeling, WV

June 28, 2014

Aired: 6:00 PM, 11:01 PM

Incident mention from transcript: residents are evacuated after a gas well fire erupts in monroe county this morning... news nine is everywhere at six-- i'm jon rudder. and i'm jessica guay.... the gas well site is located on county road 43 or long ridge road outside of hannibal. the fire started around 1030 this morning --- thats when all workers on the site were evacuated along with residents who live on county road 43. officials say river highschool in hannibal is open for residents who need a place to go. Multiple fire departments from west

virginia and ohio were on scene --- along with a gas well fire crew. The ohio state highway patrol was on scene to assist with traffic control and the evacuation. "the main concern is about the fire spreading and also explosions as the gas well heads get hot and they heat up they tend to explode and that could cause debris to fly through the area from up to a mile radius." jess///at this time it is unclear how exactly the fire started.. and it is still under investigation. staying in monroe county



WTRF (CBS) – Wheeling, WV

June 28, 2014

Aired: 6:01 PM

Incident mention from transcript: crews worked for hours making sure they could contain the fire from catching the oil well itself, and workers told us mother nature was helping, because the wind was blowing the fire in the opposite direction from the well. fire crews from more than 6 companies from ohio and west virginia came together to assist putting out the blaze. just before this newscast we spoke to a member of the sardis fire department's women's aux and she told us crews on still on sight trying to put out the fire. we aren't certain at this

time if the natural gas well has been ignited as a result of the fire. details have been very limited in this case, because most officials involved have been monitoring the situation and haven't been available for comment. stick with 7news and wtrf dot com as we work to learn more about this fire. reporting live in the 7 studio, tate blanchard working for you.